

**CITY OF ITHACA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
January 20, 2026
5:30 PM**

The regular meeting of the City of Ithaca City Council was called to order by Mayor Brett Baublitz at 5:30pm. and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present were Mayor Brett Baublitz, Councilpersons James Andrew, Rob Endter, Clark Hubbard, Kristyn Roethlisberger and Brooke Vernon. Staff present was City Manager Jamey Conn and City Clerk Cathy Cameron.

Absent was Councilperson Brandon Ester.

Additional staff present was City Treasurer Luke Klifman.

Audience in attendance was none.

Moved by Hubbard, seconded by Roethlisberger to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held January 6, 2026. Motion carried.

Moved by Hubbard, seconded by Endter to excuse Councilperson Ester. Motion carried.

Mayor Baublitz asked for approval of the agenda and for any items to be removed from the Consent Agenda. Manager Conn requested to add Budget Amendments FY25-26 to the agenda under New Business. Mayor Baublitz placed it as item 10i.

Moved by Vernon, seconded by Hubbard to approve the Agenda (as amended by adding item 10i. Budget Amendments FY25-26) including the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Mayor Baublitz asked for public comment. There was none.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Hubbard, seconded by Andrew to approve the consent agenda items as listed:

- **City Manager's written report included updates and information on Lawn Mowing Services, Police Services, Sink Hole, US127/Polk Road, Pharmacy, Crossing Guards and Speed Radar Signs.**
- **Ithaca Unit Reports for December 2025 and Fourth Quarter 2025.**
- **Claims submitted to the Ways and Means Committee by City Treasurer Klifman and recommended for payment: Accounts Payable Checks #51212-51250 and Payroll Checks #17152-17153, DD #3571-3585, EFT #2119-2122 as listed in the Check Register Book.**
- **Correspondence received was none.**

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Endter, Hubbard, Roethlisberger, Vernon, Andrew, Baublitz

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (1) Ester

Committee/Department Reports

Treasurer Klifman reported on the current priorities of the Treasurer’s office. An update was provided on the single audit with RPC, regarding the City’s federal funds spending in FY24-25. We are on track for completion with the deadline of March.

Moved by Hubbard, seconded by Andrew to receive the Financial Report. Motion carried.

City Manager Comments

Manager Conn informed council about a new sinkhole on East Center Street at Union Street. MDOT was onsite today for inspection. DPW Superintendent Smith will stay in communication with MDOT on their timeline for repairs. He reported that the new Ithaca Pharmacy is now open.

Unfinished Business

Treasurer Klifman provided the council with estimated costs for startup of our own police department including ongoing operational costs. Discussion was held on the next steps toward providing police services in the city. Council approved the Chief of Police job description as submitted by Manager Conn. Further directing him to advertise the open position within the local newspapers, the MML and on the city website.

New Business

Treasurer Klifman presented Resolution 2026-01: Public Act 152 Compliance.

Moved by Hubbard, seconded by Roethlisberger to adopt Resolution 2026-01: Public Act 152 Compliance.

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Hubbard, Roethlisberger, Vernon, Andrew, Endter, Baublitz

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (1) Ester

Clerk Cameron presented Resolution 2026-02: STC Partial Poverty Exemption Guidelines.

Moved by Hubbard, seconded by Endter to adopt Resolution 2026-02: STC Partial Poverty Exemption Guidelines.

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Hubbard, Roethlisberger, Vernon, Andrew, Endter, Baublitz

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (1) Ester

Clerk Cameron presented Resolution 2026-03: Poverty Income & Assets.

Moved by Hubbard, seconded by Vernon to adopt Resolution 2026-03: Poverty Income & Assets.

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Roethlisberger, Vernon, Andrew, Endter, Hubbard, Baublitz

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (1) Ester

Clerk Cameron presented Resolution 2026-04: Adopt Alternate Dates for Board of Review.

Moved by Roethlisberger, seconded by Hubbard to adopt Resolution 2026-04: Adopt Alternate Dates for Board of Review.

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Vernon, Andrew, Endter, Hubbard, Roethlisberger, Baublitz

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (1) Ester

Clerk Cameron presented Resolution 2026-05: Allow Written Protests to the Board of Review.

Moved by Hubbard, seconded by Roethlisberger to adopt Resolution 2026-05: Allow Written Protests to the Board of Review.

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Andrew, Endter, Hubbard, Roethlisberger, Vernon, Baublitz

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (1) Ester

Clerk Cameron presented Resolution 2026-06: Consumers Energy Lighting Change.

Moved by Hubbard, seconded by Andrew to adopt Resolution 2026-06: Consumers Energy Lighting Change.

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Endter, Hubbard, Roethlisberger, Vernon, Andrew, Baublitz

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (1) Ester

Clerk Cameron presented Resolution 2026-07: Re-Establishing the Ithaca Police Department.

Moved by Andrew, seconded by Roethlisberger to adopt Resolution 2026-07: Re-Establishing the Ithaca Police Department.

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Hubbard, Roethlisberger, Vernon, Andrew, Endter, Baublitz

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (1) Ester

Manager Conn presented an Addendum to the Mowing Services Contract with Mid-Michigan Turf Pros, LLC. This will extend the original contract for an additional two years, 2026 and 2027. The agreed upon rate per mow will increase by 10% during that time.

Moved by Hubbard, seconded by Vernon to approve the Addendum to the Mowing Services Contract with Mid-Michigan Turf Pros, LLC. for two years with a 10% increase in rates. Motion carried.

Treasurer Klifman presented a budget amendment for FY25-26. The change is necessary due to the School Crossing Guards payroll becoming the cities responsibility as of January 1, 2026. An increase of \$9,200 for wages, with Ithaca Public Schools reimbursing the city \$4,600 (50% of the wages per agreement).

Moved by Endter, seconded by Andrew to approve the budget amendment for FY25-26 in the amount of \$9,200 to cover payroll wages for the School Crossing Guards. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Mayor Baublitz asked for public comments. There was none.

Announcements

There was none.

Moved by Hubbard, second by Roethlisberger to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:26pm.

Approved 2-3-2026

Cathy Cameron

Cathy Cameron, City Clerk